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(cont.)
17. A system for reminding patients or caregivers what medication to take or administer, how to take and administer the medication, and when to take or administer the medication comprising:

a tablet of multiple sheets of color-coded paper;

each sheet depicting one or more rows wherein said rows are color shaded and one or more columns, said rows and columns intersecting to form a matrix, said matrix comprising a plurality of fields;

said rows and columns further including headers, said headers defining parameters of said row or column and of said fields;

said headers including medical markings; and

one or more color coded medication containers.

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action of July 18, 2002. Reconsideration of the rejections of Claims 1-10 is respectfully requested. By this Amendment, Claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended. New Claims 13-17 has been added by this amendment and are believed allowable over the prior art of record. Allowance of the claims of this application is requested.

Drawing Correction

Attached is a proposed drawing correction. Applicant has removed the reference to item 24 which was not specified in the specification.

The §102 Rejections

Reconsideration of the rejection of independent Claim 1 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102 over U.S. Patent 5,102,169 to Mayfield is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation wherein rows of the color coded sheet are shaded in color. Mayfield discloses the use of color only in the symbols which are attached to Mayfield's chart. The increased area of color associated with Applicant's color shaded rows assists particularly those patients with eye problems in matching dosage instructions with the appropriate container of medication. Providing shaded rows in Mayfield would detract from one's ability to recognize the colored symbols used by Mayfield.

Reconsideration of the rejection of dependent Claim 8 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102 over U.S. Patent 5,102,169 to Mayfield is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 as amended claims a system including icons wherein at least one of the icons is a graphic representation of a time period within a day. This graphic representation provides a distinct advantage over systems using numeric time indicators. Patients, especially elderly patients, often have strict regimental practices about taking drugs and will not take a dose, if they are tardy, outside of a numerically designated time period. Applicant's graphic representations do not provide an overly precise time frame, thus, not deterring patients from taking necessary medicine.

Reconsideration of the rejection of dependent Claim 9 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102 over U.S. Patent 5,102,169 to Mayfield is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 claims a system including indicators of where to administer a medication, for example application of medication to the left or right eye. Mayfield discloses a matrix of medicines (in the row position) and times to take the medicines (in the column position). An indication of where to administer the medicine is not included.

Reconsideration of the rejections of Claims 3 and 7 is respectfully requested. Claims 3 and 7 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1 which is believed allowable for the reasons set forth above. Additionally, Dependent claims 3 and 7 recite additional features which are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

The §103 Rejections

Reconsideration of the rejection of Claim 6 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Mayfield is respectfully requested. Claim 6, as amended, claims a system with a color coded sheet which includes one or more advertising markings. One or more of the advertising

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markings correspond to one of the indicators of medication markings included within the matrix on the color coded sheet. The advertising markings provide a way for the patient to obtain more information about the medication indicated within the matrix. Mayfield does not provide advertising or any other way for the patient to obtain extra information on medications. Applicant respectfully concludes that the advertising markings are related to the remainder of the claimed system and the system, as a whole, is not an obvious variation of Mayfield.

Reconsideration of the rejections of Claims 2 and 4-5 is respectfully requested. Claims 2 and 4-5 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1 which is believed allowable for the reasons set forth above. Additionally, Dependent claims 2 and 4-5 recite additional features which are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

New Claims 13-17

By this Amendment, new Claims 13-17 have been added. Claims 13-16 are either directly or indirectly dependent on Claim 1 which is patentable for the reasons stated above. Claims 13-16 add additional patentable limitations which are not new subject matter. Claim 17 is a new independent claim which does not add new subject matter, and is believed allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 17 claims a medical reminder system in the form of a tablet of paper sheets. This tablet may be used by a doctor in his office to provide instructions to his patients.

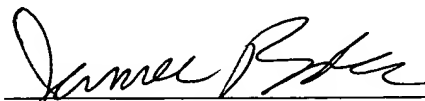
CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, Claims 1-10 and new claims 13-17 patentably and unobviously distinguish over the references of record and are in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Please charge fees for one additional independent claim (small entity) to deposit account 03-0172. No additional fees are believed due in connection with this amendment. However, in the event additional fees are due, the Examiner is authorized to charge deposit account 03-0172.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: _____

10/10/02


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Marked Claims

1. A system for reminding patients or caregivers what medication to take or administer, how to take and administer the medication, and when to take or administer the medication comprising:

a color-coded sheet;

said sheet depicting one or more rows, wherein one or more of said rows are color shaded, and one or more columns, said rows and columns intersecting to form a matrix, said matrix comprising a plurality of fields;

said rows and columns further including headers, said headers defining parameters of said row or column and of said fields;

said headers including medical markings; and

one or more color coded medication containers.

6. The system of claim [1] 3 wherein said color coded sheet further includes one or more [areas for placing] advertising markings and one or more of said advertising markings correspond to one of said indicators of medications.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein said markings include icons and at least one of said icons is a graphic representation of a time period within a day.

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